

not wholly to be carried  
into effect just yet,  
unless conditions specially  
favor it, - but worthy to be  
taken into consideration  
directly, and, if approved,  
brought into the shape  
of a policy. My own  
opinion is that the Board  
of Regents should continue  
to be trustees of the U.S.  
for the Museum, but  
administer it through a  
separate officer. For  
this there would be some  
objections so long as the  
Institution & the Museum  
are domiciled together.

If we do not effect  
this amount of separation in  
our time, there is reason  
to fear that our successors  
will not, - and that the proper  
work of the Institution will  
become secondary.

Faithfully Yours

Aschmann

HERBARIUM OF HARVARD UNIVERSITY,  
BOTANIC GARDEN, CAMBRIDGE, MASS.

Nov. 12

1871

My dear old friend

It was a pleasure  
to get your long letter  
of the 6<sup>th</sup> - I shall be  
glad to know that you  
received the little book  
sent by mail.

What you write of  
Lilburne and his  
University interests  
me. When they  
want a Professor of  
Botany who is going  
to make a fine mark  
as an investigator in  
Cryptogamic vegetation.  
I have the man to  
propose. - tho' we shall  
be sorry to lose him  
from Cambridge. When

I go to Washington I  
should like to see Pratt,  
Edman.

We felt it a great de=  
priviation that you  
could not come to  
us in Sept. Consider  
how long it is since  
you were here.

I told myself in  
readiness to obey your  
call whenever you  
want me. But I,  
too, have my hands  
full, and owing to  
the printer's calls now  
tied to Cambridge than  
usual. So the long  
visit you suggest  
will hardly come off  
this winter.

You will have some  
serious questions to  
consider, if not to settle,  
directly about the re=  
lations of the In=  
stitution to the  
ever-increasing Mus=  
seum.

As Chairman of  
Committee to consider  
about it, I thought  
of breaking ground in  
a short Report - to  
be written before your  
annual meeting,  
and submitted to my  
two colleagues - if one  
can catch and hold  
them - when I go  
on. I should like  
to know, first, if you  
see your way to any  
practicable proposition,